

Existing law provides for mandatory reporting when a person has cause to believe that an adult's physical or mental health or welfare has been or may be adversely affected by abuse, neglect, or exploitation.

Existing law defines "adult" as any individual 18 years of age or older, or an emancipated minor who, due to a physical, mental, or developmental disability or the infirmities of aging, is unable to manage his own resources, carry out the activities of daily living, or protect himself from abuse, neglect, or exploitation.

Prior law defined "abuse" as the infliction of physical or mental injury on an adult by other parties, including but not limited to such means as sexual abuse, abandonment, isolation, exploitation, or extortion of funds or other things of value, to such an extent that his health, self-determination, or emotional well-being is endangered.

New law redefines "abuse" as the infliction of physical or mental injury, or actions which may reasonably be expected to inflict physical injury, on an adult by other parties, including but not limited to such means as sexual abuse, abandonment, isolation, exploitation, or extortion of funds or other things of value.

New law adds a definition of "sexual abuse" of an adult, which is as follows:

- (1) The adult is forced, threatened, or otherwise coerced by a person into sexual activity or contact.
- (2) The adult is involuntarily exposed to sexually explicit material, sexually explicit language, or sexual activity or contact.
- (3) The adult lacks the capacity to consent, and a person engages in sexual activity or contact with that adult.

Effective August 15, 2010.

(Amends R.S. 15:1503(2); Adds R.S. 15:1503(13))